

SENATE RESOLUTION 693—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS TO THE MUSICAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE NEED FOR GREATER ACCESS TO MUSIC EDUCATION FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS AND DESIGNATING JUNE 2022 AS AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION MONTH

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 693

Whereas spirituals, ragtime, blues, jazz, gospel, classical composition, and countless other categories of music have been created or enhanced by African Americans and are etched into the history and culture of the United States;

Whereas the first Africans transported to the United States came from a variety of ethnic groups with a long history of distinct and cultivated musical traditions, brought musical instruments with them, and built new musical instruments in the United States;

Whereas spirituals were a distinct response to the conditions of African slavery in the United States and expressed the longing of slaves for spiritual and bodily freedom, for safety from harm and evil, and for relief from the hardships of slavery;

Whereas jazz, arguably the most creative and complex music that the United States has produced, combines the musical traditions of African Americans in New Orleans with the creative flexibility of blues music;

Whereas masterful trumpeters Louis Armstrong and Miles Davis achieved national and international recognition with the success of "West End Blues" by Louis Armstrong in the 1920s and "So What" by Miles Davis in the late 1950s;

Whereas Thomas Dorsey, the father of gospel music, used his composing talents to merge sacred and secular styles that created a revolution in music;

Whereas talented jazz pianist and vocalist Nathaniel Adams Coles recorded more than 150 singles and sold more than 50,000,000 records;

Whereas the talent of Ella Fitzgerald, a winner of 13 Grammys, is epitomized by a rendition of "Summertime", a bluesy record accompanied by melodic vocals;

Whereas Natalie Cole, the daughter of Nathaniel Adams Coles, achieved musical success in the mid-1970s as a rhythm and blues artist with the hits "This Will Be" and "Unforgettable";

Whereas in the 1940s, bebop evolved through jam sessions, which included trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and the alto saxophonist Charlie Parker, that were held at clubs in Harlem, New York, such as Minton's Playhouse;

Whereas earlier classical singers such as Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, one of the first widely known African-American vocalists, and other early African-American singing pioneers, including Nellie Mitchell Brown, Marie Selika Williams, Rachel Walker Turner, Marian Anderson, and Flora Batson Bergen, paved the way for the female African-American concert singers who have achieved great popularity during the last 50 years;

Whereas the term "rhythm and blues" originated in the late 1940s as a way to de-

scribe recordings marketed to African Americans and replaced the term "race music";

Whereas lyrical themes in rhythm and blues often encapsulate the African-American experience of pain, the quest for freedom, joy, triumphs and failures, relationships, economics, and aspiration and were popularized by artists such as Ray Charles, Ruth Brown, Etta James, and Otis Redding;

Whereas soul music originated in the African-American community in the late 1950s and early 1960s, combines elements of African-American gospel music, rhythm and blues, and jazz, and was popularized by artists such as Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, Bill Withers, and Jackie Wilson;

Whereas Motown, founded as a record label in 1959, evolved into a distinctive style known for the "Motown Sound", a blend of pop and soul musical stylings made popular by prominent Black artists such as Marvin Gaye, James Mason, and Mary Wells;

Whereas in the early 1970s, the musical style of disco emerged and was popularized by programs such as Soul Train and by artists such as Donna Summer;

Whereas reggae is a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s and incorporates some of the musical elements of rhythm and blues, jazz, mento, calypso, and African music, and was popularized by artists such as Bob Marley;

Whereas rock and roll was developed from African-American musical styles such as gospel and rhythm and blues and was popularized by artists such as Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, Little Richard, and Jimi Hendrix;

Whereas rap, arguably the most complex and influential form of hip-hop culture, combines blues, jazz, and soul and elements of the African-American musical tradition with Caribbean calypso, dub, and dance hall reggae;

Whereas the development and popularity of old-style rap combined confident beats with wordplay and storytelling, highlighting the struggle of African-American youth growing up in underresourced neighborhoods;

Whereas Dayton, Ohio, known as the "the Land of Funk", helped give rise to the genre of funk as a mixture of soul, jazz, and rhythm and blues and popularized bands such as the Ohio Players, Heatwave, Roger and Zapp, and Lakeside;

Whereas contemporary rhythm and blues, which originated in the late 1970s and combines elements of pop, rhythm and blues, soul, funk, hip hop, gospel, and electronic dance music, was popularized by artists such as Whitney Houston and Aaliyah;

Whereas Prince Rogers Nelson, who was known for electric performances and a wide vocal range, pioneered music that integrated a wide variety of styles, including funk, rock, contemporary rhythm and blues, new wave, soul, psychedelia, and pop;

Whereas the incredible Billie Holiday created a cultural reset by recording "Strange Fruit", originally a poem that depicted lynching in the southern United States, that became the first protest song of the civil rights era;

Whereas the talented jazz artist Duke Ellington pushed boundaries with his hits "It Don't Mean a Thing if It Ain't Got That Swing" and "Sophisticated Lady" and received 13 Grammys as well as the Presidential Gold Medal;

Whereas Sister Rosetta Tharpe, known as the Godmother of Rock 'N Roll, combined her distinctive guitar style with melodic blues and traditional gospel music that influenced the likes of Aretha Franklin and Chuck Berry;

Whereas trailblazer Florence Price is the first noted African-American female composer to gain national status and the first

African-American woman to have her composed work performed by a major national symphony orchestra;

Whereas the classical singer Marian Anderson broke down racial barriers by performing at the Lincoln Memorial in 1939 after being denied to sing in front of an integrated audience at the DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas country music singer Charley Pride was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000 and has over 40 number 1 country hits;

Whereas Nina Simone, one of the most prominent and extraordinary soul singers, has music spanning over 4 decades that has impacted generations with her detailed story telling;

Whereas musician Bobby McFerrin brought joy to audiences everywhere with his smash hit "Don't Worry Be Happy";

Whereas famous saxophone player John Coltrane made his impact on genres like bebop, jazz, and rhythm and blues through his work such as "A Love Supreme";

Whereas musical force Marvin Gaye used his versatility as an artist to produce hits like "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "Ain't No Mountain High Enough";

Whereas a recent study by the Department of Education found that only 28 percent of African-American students receive any kind of arts education;

Whereas African-American students scored the lowest of all ethnicities in the most recent National Assessment for Educational Progress arts assessment;

Whereas students who are eligible for the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) have significantly lower scores on the music portion of the National Assessment for Educational Progress arts assessment than students who are ineligible for that program, which suggests that students in low-income families are disadvantaged in the subject of music;

Whereas a recent study found that—

(1) nearly ¾ of music ensemble students were White and middle class, and only 15 percent of those students were African American; and

(2) only 7 percent of music teacher licensure candidates were African American; and

Whereas students of color face many barriers to accessing music education and training, especially students in large urban public schools: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the contributions of African Americans to the musical heritage of the United States;

(B) the wide array of talented and popular African-American musical artists, composers, songwriters, and musicians who are underrecognized for contributions to music;

(C) the achievements, talent, and hard work of African-American pioneer artists and the obstacles that those artists overcame to gain recognition;

(D) the need for African-American students to have greater access to, and participation in, music education in schools across the United States; and

(E) Black History Month and African-American Music Appreciation Month as an important time—

(i) to celebrate the impact of the African-American musical heritage on the musical heritage of the United States; and

(ii) to encourage greater access to music education so that the next generation may continue to greatly contribute to the musical heritage of the United States; and

(2) designates June 2022 as "African-American Music Appreciation Month".

**SENATE RESOLUTION 694—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JULY 2022 AS “NATIONAL SARCOMA AWARENESS MONTH”**

Mr. JOHNSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 694

Whereas sarcoma is a rare cancer of the bones or connective tissues, such as nerves, muscles, joints, fat, and blood vessels, that can arise nearly anywhere in the body;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) about 16,000 individuals are diagnosed with sarcoma each year;

(2) approximately 7,000 individuals die from sarcoma each year; and

(3) about 50,000 individuals struggle with sarcoma at any 1 time;

Whereas, each year, about 1 percent of cancers diagnosed in adults and around 20 percent of cancers diagnosed in children are sarcoma;

Whereas more than 70 subtypes of sarcoma have been identified;

Whereas the potential causes of sarcoma are not well understood;

Whereas treatment for sarcoma can include surgery, radiation therapy, or chemotherapy;

Whereas sarcoma is often misdiagnosed and underreported; and

Whereas July 2022 would be an appropriate month to designate as National Sarcoma Awareness Month—

(1) to raise awareness about sarcoma; and

(2) to encourage more individuals in the United States to get properly diagnosed and treated: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the designation of July 2022 as “National Sarcoma Awareness Month”.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 695—DESIGNATING JUNE AS “NATIONAL ANNUITY AWARENESS MONTH”**

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 695

Whereas annuities provide a predictable way to meet immediate, ongoing, and future financial obligations and objectives in retirement;

Whereas surveys consistently indicate that the vast majority of individuals in the United States are looking for a financial solution that provides the benefits offered by annuities, specifically the ability to address the critical concern of running out of money during retirement;

Whereas outliving retirement savings can—

(1) create a financial hardship that reduces the standard of living in retirement;

(2) defeat the fulfillment of legacy goals; and

(3) require dependence on family and friends for monetary support;

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States currently lack an adequate level of guaranteed income in retirement to ensure a secure financial future for themselves and their loved ones;

Whereas research indicates that an owner of an annuity has a higher confidence in overall retirement readiness;

Whereas an annuity is the only product in the financial marketplace that can provide guaranteed lifetime income;

Whereas determining the type of annuity to buy and when to take income is one of the most important financial decisions a consumer will ever make, and individuals and families can benefit greatly from the expert guidance of a financial professional; and

Whereas numerous stakeholders who support annuities have designated June as “National Annuity Awareness Month”, the goals of which are—

(1) to educate consumers on annuity benefits;

(2) to support access to annuities to meet the individual financial goals of consumers; and

(3) to encourage savers to seek professional guidance to implement annuities effectively in income and legacy planning: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June as “National Annuity Awareness Month”; and

(2) calls on the United States Government, the States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe National Annuity Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 696—RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S COMMITMENT TO REBUILDING UKRAINE**

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 696

Whereas Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine has generated massive levels of human and economic suffering in the sovereign nation of Ukraine;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Human Rights Council, Putin's war has caused more than 7,000,000 civilians to flee from Ukraine since February 24, 2022;

Whereas, according to the World Bank, Putin's war will cause Ukraine's economy to shrink by 45.1 percent during 2022;

Whereas, according to the World Bank, Putin's war in Ukraine has created almost \$60,000,000,000 worth of damage to buildings and infrastructure; and

Whereas Ukrainian civilians are being killed every day and the true number of Ukrainian civilian casualties might never be known: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that the United States—

(A) has long sought to alleviate the suffering of civilians and nations hurt by war; and

(B) remains committed to ensuring the long-term peace, prosperity, and territorial integrity of Ukraine;

(2) recognizes that aid packages, such as the Marshall Plan—

(A) helped Western Europe recover from the economic damage and human suffering generated by the World War II; and

(B) did much to promote the stability of global good order nations enjoy today;

(3) recognizes that an effective Ukrainian reconstruction effort can only be accomplished by working in concert with other nations and international bodies; and

(4) encourages the United States Government to lead an international group of allies that will equitably contribute to provide the Government of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people with a reconstruction assistance package for the purpose of increasing ties be-

tween nations that are seeking a stable international order to counter malign and rogue actors.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 697—DESIGNATING JULY 2022 AS “PLASTIC POLLUTION ACTION MONTH”**

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 697

Whereas plastic pollution represents a global threat that will require individual and collective action, both nationally and internationally, to address;

Whereas, since the 1950s, over 8,000,000,000 tons of plastic have been produced worldwide;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) just 9 percent of plastic waste is sorted for recycling; and

(2) less than 3 percent of plastic waste is recycled into a similar quality product;

Whereas a recent study found that, despite the United States only accounting for 4 percent of the global population in 2016, in that same year the United States—

(1) generated 17 percent of all plastic waste; and

(2) ranked third among all countries contributing to coastal plastic pollution;

Whereas single-use plastics account for at least 40 percent of the plastic produced every year;

Whereas over 12,000,000 tons of plastic waste enter the ocean every year from land-based sources alone;

Whereas, if no action is taken, the flow of plastics into the ocean is expected to triple by 2040;

Whereas studies estimate that there are between 15,000,000,000,000 and 51,000,000,000,000 pieces of plastic in the oceans;

Whereas, globally, 100,000 marine mammals die every year as a result of plastic pollution;

Whereas plastics, and associated chemicals of plastics, directly impact human health;

Whereas studies suggest that, every week, humans swallow the amount of plastic that is in a credit card;

Whereas taking action to reduce plastic use, collect and clean up litter, and reuse and recycle more plastics will lead to less plastic pollution;

Whereas, every July, people challenge themselves to reduce their plastic footprint through “Plastics Free July”;

Whereas, during the International Coastal Cleanup in 2020, nearly 950,000 people across the globe cleaned up over 10,000 tons of plastic from beaches;

Whereas switching to reusable items instead of single-use items can prevent waste, save water, and reduce litter; and

Whereas July 2022 is an appropriate month to designate as Plastic Pollution Action Month to recommit to taking action, individually and as a country, to reduce plastic pollution: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 2022 as “Plastic Pollution Action Month”; and

(2) recognizes the dangers to human health and the environment posed by plastic pollution; and

(3) encourages all individuals in the United States to protect, conserve, maintain, and rebuild the environment by responsibly participating in activities to reduce plastic pollution in July 2022 and year-round.